Michael Benefield 51 Essex Street #11 San Anselmo CA 94960

Aug 30th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

I support broadband competition.

For several years I used Comcast cable for internet access. I changed to ATT because Comcast's customer service was so lousy and internet access was much slower than advertised. ATT also had terrible customer service and spotty and slow access. I called them many times to get it fixed and they gave me the runaround. After a few years of frustration I found Sonic and switched again. In my neighborhood Sonic provides DSL internet over ATT's unbundled wires. Since Sonic uses the same wires my access was still slow and spotty. I called Sonic. In minutes they identified the problem in ATT's wires and sent someone to fix it. A simple problem that ATT had lied about and refused to fix for several year was fixed the next day. In addition to internet I get my phone service through Sonic and it works much better and is much cheaper than ATT.

This is exactly how the free market is supposed to work. I found a better value and I went with it. My internet provider is now building their own fiberoptic network. That was exactly the outcome hoped for in the 1996 Telecommunication act. Genuinely open competitive markets are very good at this sort of thing. Most new jobs come from small businesses and you are trying to kill small AMERICAN businesses. It's crazy.

You proposed policy to give back monopolies to the large carriers is ANTI-CAPITALIST, it is ANTI-COMPETITIVE, and it is against the best interest of the American people. The main reason that the United States has some of the slowest internet access in the developed world is the lack of competition in many markets and you are proposing to make it worse. Please do not do this.

Michael Benefield